



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

April 26, 2018

Ms. Allison Young, CEO
United Healthcare Community Plan
3838 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 2600
Metairie, LA 70002

Dear Allison:

RE: Notice of Action Regarding Authorization of Adult Mental Health Services

A Notice of Intent published in the March 2018 issue of the Louisiana Register amends Title 50:XXXIII. 6301.B of the Louisiana Administrative Code to remove the requirement of *prior* authorization for adult mental health services. Although prior authorization will no longer be required as of July 1, 2018, these services must be authorized in some manner.

Staff members of United Healthcare Community Plan (UHC) have indicated that UHC will continue to use its system of outlier review and will not conduct an authorization process for adult mental health services. This system has not met the requirement of prior authorization since the integration of specialized behavioral health services on December 1, 2015, and will not meet the requirement as revised.

LDH expects that UHC will set up an appropriate authorization process for these services. If UHC cannot demonstrate compliance with this regulatory provision by **July 1, 2018**, LDH will impose a penalty of \$5,000 per day of continued non-compliance in accordance with Section 20.3.3 of the contract,

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stacy J. Guidry".

Stacy Guidry
Section Chief, Health Plan Management

Ms. Allison Young
April 26, 2018
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cc: Darrell Montgomery
Jen Steele
Karen Stubbs
Kim Sullivan
Christina Wilson
File #: UHC2-09